



PSC NEWS

Missouri Public Service Commission

Contact: Kevin Kelly
FY-11-144

Phone: (573) 751-9300

Governor Office Building, Suite 600

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MEDIA REMINDER

PSC TO HOLD LOCAL PUBLIC HEARING IN BRANSON IN TRI-STATES UTILITY, INC. WATER RATE CASE

JEFFERSON CITY---The Missouri Public Service Commission will hold a local public hearing in Branson, Missouri on March 15, 2011, in a water rate case filed by Tri-States Utility, Inc. (Tri-States). **The local public hearing will be held at the Branson City Hall, City Council Chambers, 110 West Maddux Street. A PSC staff public information/question and answer session will start at 6:00 p.m. with the local public hearing and the taking of sworn testimony to follow.**

This local public hearing will be held in a facility that meets the accessibility requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act. Any person who needs additional accommodations to participate in this hearing should call the Public Service Commission's hotline at 1-800-392-4211 (voice) or Relay Missouri at 711 before the hearing.

Consumers unable to attend the local public hearing and wish to make written comments may send them to the Missouri Public Service Commission, P.O. Box 360, Jefferson City, Missouri 65102. Comments may also be submitted electronically by accessing the PSC's Electronic Filing and Information System at <https://www.efis.psc.mo.gov/Comments.html>. Please reference the case number which is WR-2011-0037. Comments are viewable by the public. **Please do not include any information in a public comment that you do not wish to be made public.** Customers can also contact the Office of the Public Counsel, P.O. Box 2230, Jefferson City, Missouri 65102, telephone 573-751-4857 or toll-free 1-866-922-2959. The Office of the Public Counsel is a separate state agency which represents the general public in cases before the PSC.

On August 13, 2010, Tri-States filed a water rate request with the Public Service Commission seeking to increase annual water operating revenues by approximately \$620,000.

Under the small company rate case process, the PSC staff audits the books and records of the company. After the audit, the PSC staff and the water company meet to discuss the audit. Based upon those discussions, the PSC staff and Tri-States reached an agreement which recommends a water rate increase of approximately \$104,824. The Office of the Public Counsel did not join in the agreement and asked the Commission for a local public hearing.

Current rates and those proposed under the agreement reached between the PSC staff and Tri-States appears below.

<u>Type of Charge 5/8" Meter</u>	Current Rates Nov. - April	Current Rates May – Oct.	Proposed Rates Year Round*
Monthly Bill (at 6,000 gallons usage)	\$14.08	\$20.92	\$26.59
<u>Type of Charge 3/4" Meter</u>	Current Rates Nov. – April	Current Rates May – Oct.	Proposed Rates Year Round*
Monthly Bill (at 6,000 gallons usage)	\$18.91	\$25.75	\$27.34

*This is an agreement between Tri-States and the PSC staff. The five member Commission decides all cases before it. **The Commission has not decided this case.**

Tri-States Utility, Inc. serves approximately 3,400 water customers in Taney County near Branson, Missouri.